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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan's Transition Team To Present Recommendation Report
Team Co-Chairs to Discuss Strategies for the New City Administration

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2014

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: University at Albany Downtown Campus
Husted Auditorium, Husted Building Room 106
135 Western Ave, Albany

ALBANY, N.Y. – Mayor Kathy Sheehan's Transition Team co-chairs will present an overview of their final recommendation report to the Mayor tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. at UAlbany's Husted Auditorium. Mayor Sheehan assembled her Transition Team in late November under the guidance of four lead co-chairs: Dr. Robert Jones, President of the University of Albany; Hon. John J. McEneny, former New York State Assembly Member and a former city commissioner; Kevin O'Connor, former CEO of FirstLight Fiber, Inc. and the Center for Economic Growth; and Hon. Nancy M. Burton, former City of Albany Comptroller and a former Common Council member. Made up of seven subcommittees led by 22 co-chairs and encompassing more than 100 local residents and stakeholders, the Transition Team was charged with identifying major economic, fiscal and social challenges within the City of Albany and developing strategies to guide the City's new administration in addressing them.

On behalf of the entire Transition Team, the lead co-chairs expressed their gratitude to Mayor Sheehan for the opportunity to help provide this set of recommendations. They reflect the expertise and passion of the team participants to improve the livability and health of the city for current and future generations.

"This report recommends strategies that will engage all segments of the Albany community: from healthcare to higher education, the strategies recommend partnering with Albany's strong public and private institutions to help improve neighborhoods, increase job growth, enhance planning activities, find budgetary savings and guide information technology improvements," said President Robert Jones.

"I was pleased to be able to work with the subcommittee co-chairs and committee members helping shape the report's insightful and innovative recommendations for strengthening the Albany economy: enhancing opportunities for entrepreneurs and technology companies, streamlining economic development program delivery, investing in neighborhoods, and ensuring that job growth benefits Albany residents who need jobs," Kevin O'Connor said.

"The recommendations concerning neighborhood stabilization and improvement in many sections of the report show the importance of Albany's neighborhoods to a stable, thriving future for the city," said Jack McEneny. "Albany's neighborhoods are its strength, and their history, whether built or cultural, needs to be respected and preserved."

“The seven subcommittees of the Transition Team worked extremely hard, under very short time-frames, to produce significant recommendations that portend a dramatic transformation in how Albany citizens relate to their government,” said Nancy Burton.

Mayor Sheehan said, “I want to thank the entire Transition Team, including the Transition Team co-chairs and subcommittee co-chairs for their hard work and dedication. This report reflects the input and ideas of a diverse and experienced group of individuals who care deeply about our City and its future. They worked in a very short time to produce thoughtful and practical recommendations, goals and policies that will help guide my administration as we lead Albany forward.”

This event is free and open to the public. Free parking for guests will be available at the University of Albany Thurlow Lot, located at the corner of Western Avenue and Thurlow Terrace, from 3:30 p.m. until the presentation’s conclusion.

The full, 47-page Transition Team recommendation report may be viewed at:

<http://albanyny.gov/Files/Transition%20Team%20Report.pdf>

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